

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **STATUS OF THE CLAIMS**

1. Claims 38-49 were previously pending as per the previous office action.
2. Claims 38, 40-44, and 46-49 are currently pending. Claims 39 and 45 are canceled.
3. Claims 38, 40-44, and 46-49 are allowed.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Arthur Samodovitz (Reg. No. 31,297) on 2/14/12.

#### **Please amend claims 38 and 44 as follows:**

38. A computer program product for evaluating a security risk of an application, the computer program product comprising:

one or more computer-readable tangible storage devices and program instructions stored on at least one of the one or more storage devices, the program instructions comprising;

program instructions to determine whether employees of two or more customer corporations are authorized to concurrently share use of the application;

program instructions to determine whether a vulnerability in the application can be exploited by a user which has not been authenticated to the application;

program instructions to determine whether there is a requirement for authentication for user access to the application;

program instructions to assign numerical weights to the respective determinations, each of the numerical weights corresponding to a significance of the respective determination in quantifying the security risk;

program instructions to combine the numerical weights to quantify the security risk; and

program instructions to compare the quantification of the security risk based on the combined numerical weights to a monetary value of a benefit of the application, and based on the comparison, recommend whether to certify the application for use.

44. A system for evaluating a security risk of an application, the computer system comprising:

one or more processors, one or more computer-readable memories, one or more computer-readable tangible storage devices, and program instructions stored on at least one of the one or more storage devices for execution by at least one of the one or more processors via at least one of the one or more memories, the program instructions comprising:

program instructions to determine whether employees of two or more customer corporations are authorized to concurrently share use of the application;

program instructions to determine whether a vulnerability in the application can be exploited by a user which has not been authenticated to the application;

program instructions to determine whether there is a requirement for authentication for user access to the application;

program instructions to assign numerical weights to the respective determinations, each of the numerical weights corresponding to a significance of the respective determination in quantifying the security risk;

program instructions to combine the numerical weights to quantify the security risk; and

program instructions to compare the quantification of the security risk based on the combined numerical weights to a monetary value of a benefit of the application, and based on the comparison, recommend whether to certify the application for use.

Claims 39 and 45 are canceled.

#### **EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**Prior art was found which disclosed:**

A computer program product for evaluating a security risk of an application, the computer program product comprising:

one or more computer-readable tangible storage devices and program instructions stored on at least one of the one or more storage devices, the program instructions comprising;

program instructions to determine whether a vulnerability in the application can be exploited by a user which has not been authenticated to the application;

program instructions to assign numerical weights to the respective determinations, each of the numerical weights corresponding to a significance of the respective determination in quantifying the security risk;

program instructions to combine the numerical weights to quantify the security risk; and

program instructions to compare the quantification of the security risk based on the combined numerical weights to a monetary value of a benefit of the application, and based on the comparison, recommend whether to certify the application for use.

**The following is examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:**

The prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the limitations as recited in independent claims 38 and 44 of the currently amended claims, specific to:

program instructions to determine whether employees of two or more customer corporations are authorized to concurrently share use of the application; and

program instructions to determine whether there is a requirement for authentication for user access to the application;

The prior art of record teaches combining the numerical weights and quantifying the security risk based on the combination but the prior art of record is mute in teaching that the numerical weights consist of assigning numerical weights based on the determination that the application is concurrently shared as well as requiring authentication.

Claims 40-43 and 46-49 depend on independent claims. Dependent claims are allowable as they depend from an allowable independent claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

#### **POINTS OF CONTACT**

- \*. Any response to this Office Action should be **faxed to (571) 273-8300 or mailed to:**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Hand-delivered responses** should be brought to

Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

- \*. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel L. Hoang whose telephone number is 571-270-1019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Daniel L. Hoang/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2436

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Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2436